

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

February

1997

SIGNATURE

Michael Decker

In Charge of HSA

DATE

3/07/97

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH
 NOAA / National Weather Service
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When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

On February 20th, moderate flooding occurred along the San Saba River at San Saba, Texas, along the Llano River at Mason, and in the Concho River basin at Dove Creek near Knickerbocker. Minor flooding occurred on the 21st along the Colorado River at Colorado City.

Widespread showers and thunderstorms developed in the early morning of the 20th as a potent upper level storm system approached the Concho Valley, then moved over the region during the afternoon. Local rainfall totals of 3 to 5 inches occurred in the Western Concho Valley...Northern Edwards Plateau...and Western Big Country. The heavy precipitation produced a flash flood warning for Tom Green County in the early morning. River flooding occurred on Dove Creek at Knickerbocker, which reached a crest of 19.06 feet at 645 AM. Flood stage is 14 feet. Flooding of a house located on the Dove Creek near the gage likely occurred when the river reached 18 feet. Mineral Wells Road along the South Concho River near Christoval had 3 to 4 feet of water running through it in the early afternoon. The South Concho River at Christoval, however, remained below its flood stage of 10 feet, cresting at 8.2 feet.

The heavy precipitation shifted to eastern portions of the HSA in mid and late morning. Rainfall totals of 4 to 6 inches prompted issuances of flash flood warnings for Mason and San Saba Counties. Extensive flooding of secondary roads occurred, temporarily closing many of the Farm to Market roads. Callahan County also had a flash flood warning as 2-3 inches fell over the county, producing street flooding in Baird. River flooding occurred at San Saba River at San Saba from mid afternoon of the 20th until 6 AM on the 21st. Flood stage is 24 ft. The crest was 28.65 feet around 8 PM. River flooding also occurred on the Llano River at Mason, which crested 19.08 feet, 13.08 feet above bank full. Moderate flooding of low lying areas occurred at Mason and San Saba. No damage was reported. Although no flooding occurred, the Pecan Bayou near Crosscut and near Mullen crested near bank full on the 20th, at 16 and 20 feet respectively.

Minor river flooding occurred on the 21st as the Colorado River at Colorado City reached 8.25 feet. This is just over its flood stage of 8 feet. No flooding or damage was reported. Damage to structures in Colorado City will not likely occur until a stage of 15 feet or more is reached.

The widespread rains and flooding on the 20th was preceded by heavy rains (for February). San Angelo's heaviest rains were 1.52 inches on the 6th, 0.25 inches on the 12th, and 2.32 inches on the 20th. WSO San Angelo's rainfall total was a record 4.54 inches for February. The previous record was 4.45 inches in 1987. WSO Abilene heaviest rains were 1.53 inches on the 5th- 6th, 0.99 inches on the 12th, and 0.70 inches on the 20th. The total for Abilene was 3.49 inches, 0.60 inches below its February record of 4.09 inches. Soils remain moist throughout much of the HSA.